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# Questionnaire Aims To Facilitate Credit Decisions In Future

New York: The numerous changes taking place in our business economy these days call for a new approach to selling, marketing and distribution. The Credit Executive is put under an increased burden in meeting the challenge of the swiftly changing circumstances.

With this condition in view, the Economic Committee of the New York Credit Men's Association has distributed a questionnaire to its membership which calls for answers to certain specific questions: these answers, it is felt, may be of guidance to the credit man in dealing intelligently with future credit problems. The results are as follows:

- 1. In your opinion will there be a greater number of business failures in your industry during 1947 than in 1946? Yes: 78% No: 22% If "Yes" indicate the causes which you believe will be responsible for the increased failures.
- 2. Has there been any noticeable downward trend in your collections? Yes: 32% No: 68%
- 3. Are you in favor of eliminating cash discount terms (if such exist) in your industry? Yes: 47% No: 53%
- 4. Has there been any noticeable recent increase or decrease in customers' orders (commitments) scheduled for future delivery? Decrease: 35%

No Change: 50% 5. Has there been any noticeable trend of purchasing resistance or cancelling or reducing of orders by your cus-

Increase: 15%

tomers? Yes: 44% No: 56% 6. From your analysis of recent balance sheets of customers has there been a noticeable increase in the number of:

a. unusually large loans made by officers of corporate funds? Yes: 6% No: 94% b. unusually large loans made to corporations by the officers? Yes: 9% No: 91%

The principal reasons reported for the belief that failures will increase are (a) unusually large and unbalanced inventories on dealer's shelves purchased at high prices; (b) lack of experience particularly among new firms which started in business during the past few years; (c) increasingly keen competition and (d) lack of capital.

Another frequently mentioned factor which members state will contribute to the rising number of failures during 1947 is the difficult labor situation and increasing costs of materials which will make it unprofitable for many concerns to remain in business.

## Credit Men Give Christmas An Appropriate Welcome

The annual Christmas dinner-dance of the Cleveland Association of Credit Men was held on Thursday, December 12. Nobel-Bergner Orchestra played for the dancing and a strolling trio from 6:00 o'clock thru dinner.

The night before another Christmas dinner-dance was held in Milwaukee at the Elks, and on the 3rd of December the Triple Cities Association with the invaluable assistance of the Triple Cities Women's Credit Club, also held a Christmas dinner-dance at the Arlington Hotel in Binghamton.

Des Moines greeted Christmas with a party on December 18th at the Younkers Tea Room at which the Rev. Dr. W. W. Orr, pastor of Westminster United Presbyterian Church, spoke on the Christmas spirit.

Fort Wayne also drew on the local clergy for their speaker. In this case it was the Rev. O. D. Wissler, pastor of the First Evangelical Church, an ex-Army chaplain. Entertainment was provided by two members of Radio Station WOWO.

Lexington had over 230 members at their party. It was voted "the best meeting since we entertained Henry Heimann last year." They had a bingo game with really good prizes.

Toledo and Omaha also greeted the holiday season in a worthy manner. It is at times like these that the lady members of the Associations really step forward and take charge. In every case they were called on to handle the decorations, an extremely easy job to do badly, but a very hard one to do as well as they were done.

Los Angeles threw everything they had into their party. Held at the Beverly-Wilshire, it featured a steak dinner. dancing to a name band (Maury Paul) and a floor show.

## Credit and Sales Coordination

(Continued from page 14)

make these more careful investigations?" In reply I would like to ask another question, "how can you afford not to spend that time?" It should be obvious that on-the-spot investigations cannot be made except when important accounts or prospects are involved. If you are not already feeling the most intense competition that you have ever faced, I am sure that it is just around the corner. Of necessity to meet this competition and to keep your warexpanded plan operating at profitable levels you will have to sell not only all of the well-rated accounts you can but be absolutely sure that you find out in every possible case how to handle volume business from those prospects who upon casual checking appear to be unworthy of credit. The hours which you spend today for this purpose may save days and weeks and months of heartbreaking effort by your salesmen attempting to win back the accounts that should never have been lost.

The future is a challenge to the salesmen of America. You, too, have a similar challenge. Let's meet it together and show the country that the salesmen of America and the credit men of America can coordinate their efforts to reach the goal of maximum distribution-the goal of full national employment.

Available January 1, 1947; Executive. Mature Business Judgment. Capable Administrator. Successful Builder of Sales Organizations. Also Successful Business Administration Background. Traveled Extensively. Excellent Educational Record. Will Locate Anywhere! Complete information on request. Address Box J-1, Credit and Financial Management.

Executive Position Wanted: Age 35. College graduate with degree in law. Employed at present as credit manager in large lumber and millwork corporation. Ten years' experience in wholesale, retail and mail order credit and collection work. Desire to make change. Will move to another state if position requires. Box J-2, Credit and Financial Management.

